

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BLANTY 00933 051606Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /064 W

----- 085028

R 051305Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8140

INFO M/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 719

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BLANTYRE 933

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, RH

SUBJ: BRITISH EFFORTS TO GET ANC-SMITH TALKS UNDERWAY

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER RITCHIE CALLED TODAY TO INFORM ME BISHOP MUZOREWA ARRIVED BLANTYRE YESTERDAY AND TALKING WITH PRES BANDA THIS MORNING. RITCHIE HAD JUST BRIEFED BANDA RE HMG VIEW EXTREMELY URGENT ANC BEGIN TALKING WITH SMITH BEFORE STEPPED UP GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN BECOMES A REALITY AND WHOLE THING A "REAL MESS". SAID BANDA AGREED WITH HMG AND WOULD TAKE SAME LINE.

2. MUZOREWA ALSO PERSUADED HE SHOULD GO TO LONDON AT ONCE AND TALK WITH SEVERAL MINISTERS THERE. LEAVING HERE TOMORROW FOR THIS PURPOSE. THEY HOPE TO DRIVE HOME TO HIM "REALITY THAT RHODESIA NOT ANOTHER MOZAMBIQUE AND WHITES WILL FIGHT DESPERATELY IF NECESSARY--THEY HAVE NO PLACE TO GO". HMG APPARENTLY FEELS BALL IS NOW IN ANC COURT.

3. RITCHIE CONSIDERS MUZOREWA AS LEADER "INADEQUATE," RATES
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GABELLAH SOMEWHAT HIGHER BUT THINKS NDABINGI SITHOLE ANC REP WITH

CLEAREST IDEA OF WHAT IS WANTED AND WHAT REALISTIC TERMS FOR SETTLEMENT COULD BE. EXPRESSED OPINION SITHOLE INCREASINGLY INFLUENTIAL WITH MUZOREWA.

4. MUZOREWA APPARENTLY EXPECTS GABELLAH TO ARRIVE HERE TODAY OR TOMORROW. IS THERE ANY CHANCE WE MAY GET REPLY TO OUR CABLE TO DEPT OF JULY 29 ON THIS SUBJECT?

5. NOTED IN RHODESIA HERALD OF AUGUST 1ST STORY THAT MISSIONARIES AT MISSION SCHOOLS ALONG THE MOZABIQUE BORDER BELIEVE THAT OVER 1,000 SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE FLED INTO MOZAMBIQUE IN RECENT WEEKS. IMPLICATION IS THAT THEY HAVE GONE TO JOIN GUERRILLA FORCES.
STEVENSON

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